Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

P.O. Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1G 3J2

Check out our Web Page: ***www.oarc.net***

April 2009

This month's edition features an article on the memristor - a new circuit element postulated 40 years ago but only recently realized in a simple material form at Hewlett Packard. (Next month's edition will carry a similar article on a new mechanical circuit element.)

Flea market season is upon us and the Smith Falls Flea Market is the first big one in our area. See the advertisement on page 10.

Radio volunteers are being sought for the Lanark Highlands Road Rally (May 9) and the Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour (June 6,7).

Remember, the April meeting hosts Home Brew Night so bring in your projects for fame and glory. Two awards are being offered: the Clare Fowler Award and the People's Choice Award. We are again in the **Colonel By Room** at City Hall.

See you at the meeting.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ
Editor

APRIL MEETING 7:30 pm, Wednesday, April 8th
in the Colonel By Room at Ottawa City Hall

In This Issue....

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
Groundwave

April 2009

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Articles may be submitted for use in this publication provided that they portray events or activities that promote Amateur Radio. Letters and comments are also welcome. Submissions may be made by mail addressed to the Editor care of the OARC, or by e-mail to "ve3igj@rac.ca". Deadline for submissions occurs three days after the regular monthly meeting of the OARC.

Please support your local radio organisations. They support you!

Club Information

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. is an association of Radio Amateurs devoted to the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communications in the National Capital Area and to the advancement and achievement of club members.

Regular Meetings of the OARC Inc. are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) in the Honeywell Room which is on the second floor of Ottawa City Hall, formerly Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton Headquarters, on Lisgar Street. Meetings commence at approximately 19:30 hours. Further details about each meeting is elsewhere in this publication.

Executive Meetings of the OARC Inc. are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at 19:30 hours. Contact the President to confirm the date, time and place of the next meeting.

The CAPITAL CITY FM Net meets every Monday (except some holidays) at 20:00 hours on the club repeater **VE2CRA 146.940(-)** to pass traffic and to make announcements of interest to Amateurs in the National Capital Region.

The SWAP Net is a service provided and conducted by Ed Seib, VA3ES. This feature appears on the Capital City FM Net. To list items and make inquiries, got to http://www.ncswapnet.ca. You may reach Ed at 613-738 8924 or e-mail him at va3es@rac.ca.

The POT-HOLE Net is a SSB/HF net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club and is conducted every Sunday at 10:00 hours on **3.760 MHz**. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

The POT-LID CW Net is an informal slow-speed **CW** net sponsored and conducted by Ed Morgan, VE3GX, and meets every Sunday, except during July and August, at 11:00 hours on **3.620** MHz, to promote interest in CW and CW procedures.

The QCWA CHAPTER 70 Net meets every Monday evening at 19:30 hours on repeater VE3TEL **147.030(-).** You do not have to be a QCWA member to participate.

The Ottawa Valley VHF/UHF SSB Net is sponsored by the West Carleton ARC. Look for it every Tuesday night (except the first Tuesday of the month) around 21:00 on **144.250,** (roll calls after net on 50.150, 432.150, 222.150, and 1296.100.) Horizontal polarization is preferred.

VE3TEN

Tuning in the beacon so that it makes sense requires you tune to **28.175** on **CW** and read the tone that is there . The spaces between the elements are the higher tone. If that doesn't work, tune to **28.175.28** on **lower sideband** for better results.

Voice (VHF) 146.94/146.34 100Hz CTCSS required
(UHF) 443.300/448.300

VE3TVA Amateur Fast Scan Television Repeater
Video/audio beacon & input 439.25 MHz (audio sub. 443.75)
Video/Audio output 914 MHz (FM)

IRLP Node 2040 146.94/146.34 (VE2CRA/VE3RC)
(Code 411 for info) (Code 204 for activity)
(Code 88 for time)
For further information please contact the Repeater Chair.

Note: The IRLP link is not connected to ECHOLINK. Please do not try to connect using the alpha keys on your keypad. It just confuses the operator.
Note: The IRLP link is disabled during the Capital City Net each Monday. It is disabled from 2000 to 2145 Mondays except for May to August when the link is disabled from 2000 to 2020.

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
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April 2009

March Minutes

Meeting started at 7:30

Dave VE3TLY made the customary call for visitors; a full house of approximately 60 people included Stephen - VE3SMA, Gord - VE3FRB, Edward - VE3OU, Bob - VA3QV and I believe it was Joe - VE3EUS. a new member was welcomed tonight as well, Joe - VA3JNE, earned his license a few days earlier! Congratulations Joe!

VE3UNK presented Janice VA3PAX with her 5 year pin for participation in the Canadian Ski Marathon to much applause.

General announcements: a reminder of the ongoing club project which is held every second Saturday morning at the Woodroffe campus of Algonquin College, Room T110. April is home brew night at the OARC including fun and prizes.

Diefenbunker: Last year's tour of the Diefenbunker so impressed the attendees that the executive moved to donate $125 to the Museums retrofit fund. Brian, VE3UU, accepted the cheque on behalf of the museum and offered his thanks to the club for the show of generosity.

Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour: Gord, VE3FRB, presented a brief talk on the need for radio support at the Ottawa to Perth leg of this year's Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour. Gord needs radio operators to man 10 posts and one rest stop. He is also interested in placing APRS units on some key vehicles for the event. Anyone with time or gear to contribute should contact Gord at VE3FRB@RAC.CA

5th OVMRC Simplex FM Contest: 2nd of May 2009 from 11 am to 4 pm local time. See www.ovmrc.on.ca for further details.

Demonstration: Bryan - VE3QN and Ying - VA3HUM demonstrated portable PSK31 modem communications using the W8NUE modem kit. The NUE-PSK is a new digital modem kit for PSK31 field operation - without using a PC! We were shown by Bryan, with the help of his informative slides, how the W8NUE will work with any SSB transceiver to finally allow PSK31 to be easily done in the field. Finally an extensible and fun to assemble kit providing "portable PSK". Ying pointed out that other modulation schemes could be developed and downloaded into the device as well. The sky is the limit in digital radio....

More information can be had using the internet at www.nue-psk.com

The meeting ended at 8:55 and during the post meeting coffee and chat portable PSK modems were used to make several low power HF contacts. Our keynote speaker, Ying Hum - VA3HUM, won the enormous sum of $26 in the 50/50 draw.

Dates to Remember

2009

Feb. 7, 8	Canada Ski Marathon
Apr. 8	Homebrew Night
Jun. 10	OARC AGM and Elections
Jun. 27, 28	Field Day
Jul. 1	RAC Canada Day Contest
Sep. 12	Hamfest
Sep. 30	Membership Renewal Deadline
Nov. 4	Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
Dec. 19	RAC Winter Contest

mk's Words

A New Morse Keying Mode: Iambic C

Before starting in on Iambic C, a little explanation of Iambic keying, and Iambic A and B are in order. When using an electronic keyer with separate paddles for the dit and dah parts of a character, holding both the paddles at the same time produces a steady stream of di dah di dah di dah…

*The difference between mode A and B lies in what the keyer does when both paddles are released. The mode A keyer completes the element being sent when the paddles are released. The mode B keyer sends an additional element opposite to the one being sent when the paddles are released. The original Curtis chip is mode A - the WB4VVF Accu-keyer is mode B. You can tell the basic difference between the modes with the letter C. In mode A you could squeeze both paddles (dah before dit) and you would let go of both after hearing the last dit. With mode B, you start the same BUT let go of both paddles after hearing the second dah.

Now that you know what Mode A and B do, it's time to move on to the state of the art: Mode C Those of you who have attempted to use a set of paddles and keyer set up for the "other" mode (opposite of what you learned when starting out) know it sounds OK for a few characters, then turns to gibberish in the middle of a QSO, making the sender sound like an imbecile. Of course, a few 807's have been known to do this too. Some of us don't even have that excuse. With Iambic Mode C, the paddles work in a manner similar to the "predictive text" mode for sending messages on a cell phone from the numeric keypad. The keyer takes in a bunch of your paddle movements, and tries to figure out what you tried to say, making up letters and words as it goes along, using past QSOs as a starting point. For example, if you usually hold the paddles a bit long and send 73 as OH SJ, it will soon enough learn that when you send OH SJ you really want to say goodbye to the ham at the other end, and output the correct Morse. If you want to say "OH BY THE WAY…", you're out of luck, since the keyer will start with 76kt, figuring you have jumped into a weather report. You might sound unintelligible, but not unintelligent that way. Of course you will have to forget about ever working OH5SJ. Lets see if it catches on.

73 (or was that OH SJ?)

mk VE3FFK

* From : http://home.att.net/~jacksonharbor/modeab.pdf

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there is a good base of operators experienced in such things, but I also recognize that we could be dealing with a relatively small number of so-motivated operators always being the ones to take on these roles, and that there could be bandwidth exhaust in this regard. I am also well aware that not only are these dates in early summer, and prime time for other activities, but also that they impinge on Field Day prep time. In this regard, I'd like to add that very minimal prep time is required to make a contribution to this event. That all being said though, in order to get sufficient participation, I am trying to cast my net broadly and intend to check for interest from other groups as well, including new hams.

I would be most appreciative if you would poll your membership to see if there are some out there who would be interested in helping out with this worthwhile event. Any who are should contact me at this email address. If you would like more information about any aspect of the event support, please do not hesitate to contact me by return email.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,
Gord Mein ve3frb@rac.ca

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The Mysterious Memristor

By Sally Adee

1 May 2008—Anyone familiar with electronics knows the trinity of fundamental components: the resistor, the capacitor, and the inductor. In 1971, a University of California, Berkeley, engineer predicted that there should be a fourth element: a memory resistor, or memristor. But no one knew how to build one. Now, 37 years later, electronics have finally gotten small enough to reveal the secrets of that fourth element. The memristor, Hewlett-Packard researchers revealed today in the journal Nature, had been hiding in plain sight all along—within the electrical characteristics of certain nanoscale devices. They think the new element could pave the way for applications both near- and far-term, from nonvolatile RAM to realistic neural networks.

The memristor's story starts nearly four decades ago with a flash of insight by IEEE Fellow and nonlinear-circuit-theory pioneer Leon Chua. Examining the relationships between charge and flux in resistors, capacitors, and inductors in a 1971 paper, Chua postulated the existence of a fourth element called the memory resistor. Such a device, he figured, would provide a similar relationship between magnetic flux and charge that a resistor gives between voltage and current. In practice, that would mean it acted like a resistor whose value could vary according to the current passing through it and which would remember that value even after the current disappeared.

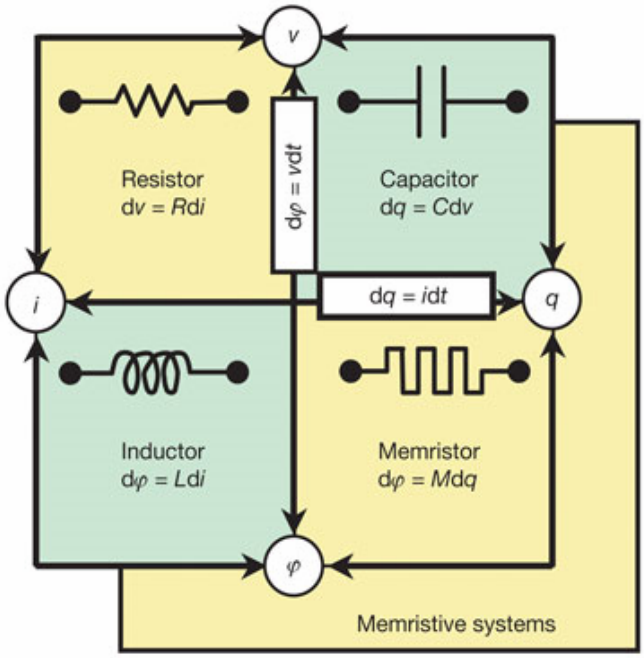
But the hypothetical device was mostly written off as a mathematical dalliance. Thirty years later, HP senior fellow Stanley Williams and his group were working on molecular electronics when they started to notice strange behavior in their devices. “They were doing really funky things, and we couldn't figure out what [was going on],” Williams says. Then his HP collaborator Greg Snider rediscovered Chua's work from 1971. “He said, ‘Hey guys, I don't know what we've got, but this is what we want,' ” Williams remembers. Williams spent several years reading and rereading Chua's papers. “It was several years of scratching my head and thinking about it.” Then Williams realized their molecular devices were really memristors. “It just hit me between the eyes.”

The reason that the memristor is radically different from the other fundamental circuit elements is that, unlike them, it carries a memory of its past. When you turn off the voltage to the circuit, the memristor still remembers how much was applied before and for how long. That's an effect that can't be duplicated by any circuit combination of resistors, capacitors, and inductors, which is why the memristor qualifies as a fundamental circuit element.

The classic analogy for a resistor is a pipe through which water (electricity) runs. The width of the pipe is analogous to the resistance of the flow of current—the narrower the pipe, the greater the resistance. Normal resistors have an unchanging pipe size. A memristor, on the other hand, changes with the amount of water that gets pushed through. If you push water through the pipe in one direction, the pipe gets larger (less resistive). If you push the water in the other direction, the pipe gets smaller (more resistive). And the memristor remembers. When the water flow is turned off, the pipe size does not change.

Such a mechanism could technically be replicated using transistors and capacitors, but, Williams says, “it takes a lot of transistors and capacitors to do the job of a single memristor.”

The memristor's memory has consequences: the reason computers have to be rebooted every time they are turned on is that their logic circuits are incapable of holding their bits after the power is shut off. But because a memristor can remember voltages, a memristor-driven computer would arguably never need a reboot. “You could leave all your Word files and spreadsheets open, turn off your computer, and go get a cup of coffee or go on vacation for two weeks,” says Williams. “When you come back, you turn on your computer and everything is instantly on the screen exactly the way you left it.”



Chua deduced the existence of memristors from the mathematical relationships between the circuit elements. The four circuit quantities (charge, current, voltage, and magnetic flux) can be related to each other in six ways. Two quantities are covered by basic physical laws, and three are covered by known circuit elements (resistor, capacitor, and inductor),

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says Columbia University electrical engineering professor David Vallancourt. That leaves one possible relation unaccounted for. Based on this realization, Chua proposed the memristor purely for the mathematical aesthetics of it, as a class of circuit element based on a relationship between charge and flux.

Chua calls the HP work a paradigm shift; he likens the addition of the memristor to the circuit design arsenal to adding a new element to the periodic table: for one thing, "now all the EE textbooks need to be changed," he says.

So why hadn't anyone seen memristance? Chua actually produced a memristor in the 1970s with an impractical combination of resistors, capacitors, inductors, and amplifiers as a proof of concept. But memristance as a property of a material was, until recently, too subtle to make use of. It is swamped by other effects, until you look at materials and devices that are mere nanometers in size.

No one was looking particularly hard for memristance, either. In the absence of an application, there was no need. No engineers were saying, "If we only had a memristor, we could do X," says Vallancourt. In fact, Vallancourt, who has been teaching circuit design for years, had never heard of memristance before this week.

But the smaller the scales of the devices scientists and engineers were working with got, the more the devices started behaving with the postulated "memristor" effect, says Chua, who is now a senior professor at Berkeley.

There had been clues to the memristor's existence all along. "People have been reporting funny current voltage characteristics in the literature for 50 years," Williams says. "I went to these old papers and looked at the figures and said, 'Yup, they've got memristance, and they didn't know how to interpret it.' "

"Without Chua's circuit equations, you can't make use of this device," says Williams. "It's such a funky thing. People were using all the wrong circuit equations. It's like taking a washing machine motor and putting it into a gasoline-powered car and wondering why it won't run."

Williams found an ideal memristor in titanium dioxide—the stuff of white paint and sunscreen. Like silicon, titanium dioxide (TiO_2) is a semiconductor, and in its pure state it is highly resistive. However, it can be doped with other elements to make it very conductive. In TiO_2, the dopants don't stay stationary in a high electric field; they tend to drift in the direction of the current. Such mobility is poison to a transistor, but it turns out that's exactly what makes a memristor work. Putting a bias voltage across a thin film of TiO_2 semiconductor that has dopants only on one side causes them to move into the pure TiO_2 on the other side and thus lowers the resistance. Running current in the other direction will then push the dopants back into place, increasing the TiO_2's resistance.

HP Labs is now working out how to manufacture memristors from TiO_2 and other materials and figuring out the physics behind them. They also have a circuit group working out how to integrate memristors and silicon circuits on the same chip. The HP group has a hybrid silicon CMOS memristor chip "sitting on a chip tester in our lab right now," says Williams.

The implications for circuit design may be niche at the moment. "This will require a fair amount of work to exploit," says Columbia's Vallancourt. Applications will have to be identified in which the memristor's unique characteristics offer possibilities not covered by today's components.

Williams is in talks with several neuroscience/engineering labs that are pursuing the goal of building devices that emulate neural systems. Chua says that synapses, the connections between neurons, have some memristive behavior. Therefore, a memristor would be the ideal electronic device to emulate a synapse.

By redesigning certain types of circuits to include memristors, Williams expects to obtain the same function with fewer components, making the circuit itself less expensive and significantly decreasing its power consumption. In fact, he hopes to combine memristors with traditional circuit-design elements to produce a device that does computation in a non-Boolean fashion. "We won't claim that we're going to build a brain, but we want something that will compute like a brain," Williams says. They think they can abstract "the whole synapse idea" to do essentially analog computation in an efficient manner. "Some things that would take a digital computer forever to do, an analog computer would just breeze through," he says.

The HP group is also looking at developing a memristor-based nonvolatile memory. "A memory based on memristors could be 1000 times faster than magnetic disks and use much less power," Williams says, sounding like a kid in a candy store.

Chua agrees that nonvolatile memory is the most near-term application. "I'm very happy that this is a breakthrough," he says. "The reality is that at the nanoscale, this effect becomes dominant, and you'll find it whether you like it or not. I'm glad I can point people in the right direction."

 For the original Chua paper see http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/xplore/2072

RAC Bulletins

Brit Fader Scholarship Trust Announces

Call for Applications

The Brit Fader Scholarship was established in 1993 by the Halifax Amateur Radio Club and endowed through the generosity of Club members and Radio Amateurs throughout the Maritime Provinces of Canada. This scholarship is intended exclusively for post-secondary educational use, to provide assistance with the cost of tuition, room, board, books and/or other fees essential to the advanced education of the recipient. The amount of the 2009 award will be $1000.00.

Applicant must be a citizen of Canada, but without regard to gender, race, national origin, handicap status or any other factor and must be performing at a high academic level.

Applicant must, hold an active Basic Class or higher grade of Canadian Amateur Radio license.

This Scholarship will be provided for attendance at an accredited Canadian post-secondary technical school, college or university, with preference given to applicants who have been accepted into a program in the field of electronics or electrical engineering.

Application submissions must be postmarked no later than July 15th 2009.

A zipped application package (Criteria; Application Form; Reference Form) is available for down-loading from the HARC website at www.Halifax-arc.org. Follow the link to the Brit Fader Scholarship from the Home Page.

D. Howard Dickson – VE1DHD
for the Brit Fader Scholarship Committee

ARDF Coordinator

RAC Bulletin 2009-009E Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator Needed

March 22, 2009

Radio Amateurs of Canada is seeking an interested Radio Amateur to volunteer as the Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Coordinator for Canada.

ARDF is the sport of finding radio transmitters while on foot, using a radio receiver, map and compass in diverse, wooden terrain.

The RAC ARDF Coordinator's job is to promote the development of this sport and work with ARDF Coordinators in other International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) countries to organize competitions and activities.

As the current ARDF Coordinator's term has come to an end, a replacement is required. Interested Radio Amateurs should contact the RAC Corporate Secretary via email at ve9glf@hotmail.com.

For more information about ARDF, please visit the RAC web page at www.rac.ca/opsinfo/ardf.htm.

R. D. (Bob) Cooke VE3BDB
President = Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.

RAC Bulletins

Global Simulated Emergency Test (GlobalSET)

The date for this event, sponsored by IARU Region 1, has been altered to coincide with World Amateur Radio Day on April 18th. The theme for the day of "Amateur Radio: Your Resource in Disaster and Emergency Communication" is an ideal opportunity to showcase the work of emergency communications groups around the world.

The timing of the event remains at 1100-1500 UTC but in a change for this and future events, the focus will be on generating and relaying messages in a common format across country borders rather than the information gathering about capabilities which has taken place in the past. More information will be posted on www.iaru-r1.org and www.raynet-hf.net as it becomes available.

Susan Cooke, VE3SUH
Acting Vice President Field Services
Radio Amateurs of Canada

Scheduled RAC AGM Postponed

March 18, 2009

Due to a change in the bookkeeping system at the Radio Amateurs of Canada headquarters office resulting in unforeseen related complications, the Annual General Meeting of RAC members, scheduled for May 24, 2009, at Sorel-Tracy, Québec, has had to be cancelled. The hamfest organisers were notified directly, prior to release of this bulletin.

Presentation of an audited financial statement at the AGM is an important and long established practice, facilitating face to face discussion and questions from members. Because of the unexpected delay caused by the transfer to a new bookkeeping method, the possibility of an audited statement being ready for the AGM is virtually nil. This conclusion was reached at a recent special meeting of the RAC Board.

It was deemed advisable to make this decision now, to give sufficient notice to the Québec Provincial hamfest organisers rather than waiting to the last minute in the faint hope the AGM might still take place as planned, only for it be cancelled with very little notice. That would have been unfair to the RAC membership and to the hamfest organisers.

RAC has been looking forward to the Quebec venue for the AGM and deeply regrets the need for this decision. Another venue for the required 2009 AGM is being sought and will be announced as soon as one is known.

R. D. (Bob) Cooke VE3BDB
President and Chairman of the Board
Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.

Fessenden Radio Day

Date: Sunday, June 14, 2009

Location: The Brome County Historical Society Museum,130 Lakeside Street, Knowlton (Lac Brome), QC, J0E 1V0

Time: 11:00 to 15:00 EDT (15:00Z-19:00Z)

Other: The museum exhibits are open from 11 AM to 4:30 PM, out on the same Sunday, the annual fundraising Spring Antique Flea Market will be held outside on the museum grounds. Many Vendors set up their tables and tents by sunrise, but the grounds are huge and lots of space for tables. A canteen will provide visitors with coffee, soft drinks, sandwiches etc. all day and many restaurants are located within a walking distance.

Operating frequencies: SSB 15M, 21250; 20M, 14175 kHz; 40M, 7075 kHz; 80M, 3775 kHz. CW frequencies: 25 kHz up from the band edge

More information to follow
<http://ville.lac-brome.qc.ca/musee.php?lang=en>

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April 2009

Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour

Let me first introduce myself. I'm Gord (VE3FRB), and I've been involved in providing radio support for a very popular event amongst cyclists for the past couple of years. I learned about this event quite by chance, and am aware that many in the ham community are similarly unaware of it. The event is an annual bicycle tour run by the Ottawa Bicycle Club (OBC) called the Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour (RLCT). The reason for this email is to enquire as to whether the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club or any of its membership might be interested in helping to provide radio support for this year's event (June 6 and 7). The following background should help to set the context.

Every year for over a quarter century now, the Ottawa Bicycle Club (OBC) has run the Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour. This is a bicycle tour, not a race, with usually over 1000 riders on the supported route, and in the neighbourhood of 2000 riders overall including several other unsupported routes. It departs from Carleton University early on the Saturday morning and arrives, spread out, at Queens University later in the day (177 km one way!). The return is on the Sunday with cyclists arriving back at Carleton mid to late afternoon typically.

A radio group from Ottawa working in conjunction with the Lanark and Frontenac ARES groups have teamed up to provide radio support over the whole route. In its origins the radio support for this was done simplex by the old XM49ers group, and then moved to commercial radio, and subsequently to amateur radio. Over the past many years now there has been a set of people largely made up of the original team plus a few folks from the Manotick Amateur Radio Group who have been handling the Ottawa end. However, numbers have been dwindling and we need to refresh the team. It's quite a ride, and every year there are accidents, some serious, and incidents for which radio support has been incredibly valuable and appreciated by the OBC and the riders.

I became involved in the RLCT radio work a couple of years ago, and think it's an excellent event with our contribution providing a necessary, and very much appreciated, level of support. With our reduced numbers though, our service level has been dropping off. This year, I've offered to help get the Ottawa end organized, with the hope that by drawing in some new blood we can reinvigorate the team, and add some new radio aspects to the event as well. I do have a small list of operators that I'm hoping will deliver a handful to the roster, but I'd really like to build to a team of 20+. Our part of the tour covers about 50 km from Carleton U. to Black's Corners (south of Carleton Place on Highway 15). This section of the route includes one official rest stop, and the start/finish of the tour, plus some high traffic areas, which drives the size of the team needed. There is a lot of experience and history to draw upon. A fair bit of information and organization already exists. We already have route maps, a prioritized list of checkpoints, a summary of operators roles and operating frequencies etc. And there is excellent collaboration with the OBC, as well as with the other two amateur radio groups. Keith Fish (VE3XKF) has been the champion of this from the outset, and along with his wife Sallie (VE3YSF), are OBC radio support officials.

This year, I am targeting getting sufficient operators and interest to provide good coverage at the Ottawa end of things, and to engage enough amateur radio capability to equip a few key vehicles with APRS to allow for real-time tracking of SAG (Support And Gear) and Repair vehicles along the route. In addition, we would like to establish an Ottawa-end base station that would be better equipped to take on control and support functions with the possibility of covering two of the repeater zones (one in Ottawa and VE3KJG (Lavant)).

Recognizing that the OARC has made, for many years, a significant contribution to the Canadian Ski Marathon, among other things I'm sure, it seemed to me that some portion of your membership might be interested in another such support opportunity. Certainly, it is clear that

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North East Regional Directors Report February 2009

The monthly meeting of the Regional Directors was held on February 24, 2009 starting at 2330Z.

As you are probably aware President Goodwin, VE3AAQ resigned as President of RAC on February 24. It was my pleasure to work with Dave and I hope sometime in the future he can again play a role with RAQ. Here is the link to the link at RAC with the full release. http://www.rac.ca/en/news/bulletins/2009/4
Bob Cooke, VE3BDB has assumed the presidency for the remainder of the term.

There are a couple of issues that I want to keep you abreast of. First and probably most important is the Bill before the Ontario Legislature to limit the operation of cell phones in cars unless they are hands free. We are looking for a specific exemption for Radio Amateurs. Our VP of Public Relations, Peter West, VE3HG and Canadian Association for Rallysport (CARS) Executive Director Alastair Robertson VE3RAA have had meetings with MOT officials recently. They were impressed with our presentation and we have support from working level officials. We will now work on elected officials. But Peter and Alastair have a good feeling on how this will work out. I will keep you informed.

The other major task Peter, VE3HG has been working on is a publicity kit for Amateurs. It is an impressive document and Peter has many years in publishing and is very familiar with this subject. As soon as it is available I will pass it along to you.

And finally last month I mentioned I was going to operate in the Freeze Your Buns Off contest on February 7. And the answer to your 1st question is yes, we did freeze em! But conditions were good and I managed to work a few stations.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

73

Bill VE3XT
North East Ontario
Regional Director

Celebrating 25 Years

SMITHS FALLS FLEA MARKET

of

AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT

SPONSORED BY

The RIDEAU LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB inc.

MAY 9th, 2009

SMITHS FALLS YOUTH ARENA

(behind the Community Centre)

Corner of Cornelia St. (highway #43) and Elmsley St.

Smiths Falls, Ontario

Doors Open at 9:00 am (7:00 am for vendors)

General Admission: $5.00 (includes a door prize ticket)

Youth 16 and under are admitted free of charge

Tables: (approx. 2 1/2 ft X 5 ft) $10.00 each (includes one admission)

Canteen Available

Consignment Table Available

For information and table reservations, contact:

Steve Mayne VE3LWX at ve3lwx@xplornet.com

phone 613-253-2215

or

The RLARC inc. Secretary at ve3rlr@yahoo.ca

or

http://www.falls.igs.net/~rlarc/

Talk-in on VE3RLR 147.21 MHz +

Door Prizes provided by

Elkel Ltee; Durham Radio, H.F. Radio

H.C. MacFarlane Electronics Ltd; Maple Leaf Communications;

Radio Amateurs of Canada

Membership Application/Renewal

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc., Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3J2

☐Single ($25, $20 after Feb 1)
☐Family ($30)
☐Junior ($15, under 18 years of age)
☐New Ham (Free if licensed in current Membership year)
☐Emailed *Groundwave* ☐Mailed *Groundwave* (add $5.00)

Please Note: Membership year is September 1 to August 31

Family Name: _____ First Name/Initials: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Post Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____ (For *Groundwave* mailing)

Callsign(s): _____
Qualifications: ☐ Basic ☐ Advanced ☐ Morse Code
Year Licensed: _____ RAC Member? Yes ☐

Other Family Members

Name: _____ Callsign(s): _____
Qualifications: ☐ Basic ☐ Advanced ☐ Morse Code
Year Licensed: _____ RAC Member? Yes ☐

Interests: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____

All members who are in good standing on or before the December General Meeting will be eligible for a free one-time name badge. Members who wish a second or replacement badge may purchase one at the Club Price (approx $7.50 plus tax). Ordered badges will be available in January.

OARC NAME TAG Yes ☐ Second or Replacement Yes ☐

ORDER DETAILS - As to appear on badge:

First Name _____ Call Sign _____